

Message

From: Kelly Cook [kelly.cook@tceq.texas.gov]
Sent: 11/27/2019 11:10:19 AM
To: Carroll, Craig [Carroll.Craig@epa.gov]; Adams, Adam [Adams.Adam@epa.gov]
Subject: Fwd: Initial:: Fire / R10 / TPC Port Neches Operations / Port Neches, Jefferson County - Notification of Significant Incident

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kathy Saucedo <Kathy.Saucedo@tceq.texas.gov>
Date: November 27, 2019 at 4:29:39 AM CST
To: HSNotify <HSNotify@tceq.texas.gov>, IGR <IGR@tceq.texas.gov>
Subject: Initial:: Fire / R10 / TPC Port Neches Operations / Port Neches, Jefferson County - Notification of Significant Incident

Notification Status: Initial

General Incident Information

Type of Incident: Fire / Explosion

Date: November 27, 2019

Time Incident Started: 1:00 a.m.

Time TCEQ Notified: The Beaumont Region was made aware (staff woke up from explosion) of an explosion and subsequent fire located in the Port Neches area (Jefferson County) at the TPC Port Neches Operations.

TCEQ Region: Region 10 – Beaumont

Responsible Party (RP)/Regulated Entity Information/Incident Location

RP/Regulated Entity Name: TPC Port Neches Operations

RN Number (if available): RN104964267

Street Address: Located at the NW Corner of the Intersection of FM366 and Spur 136

City: Port Neches

County: Jefferson County

RP Contact Name and Information: Mr. Mike Miller, PNO Production Manager, (409) 724-4917

Specific Incident Information

Description of Event/Cause: There was an explosion / fire at TPC Port Neches Operations located in Port Neches, Jefferson County. The cause is unknown. This facility manufactures 1-3 Butadiene and Raffinate. Multiple fire departments are responding to the active fire. Mr. Mike White, Jefferson County EMC, stated that they are in the process of calling for a ½ mile radius evacuation from the facility. In addition, a shelter-in-place has been issued by the Orange County Judge for citizens south of I-10 in Orange County. No additional information is known at this time.

Material Released: 1-3 Butadiene and other unknowns

Amount Released (estimated): Unknown

Affected Media: Air/Land/Stormwater

Injuries or Fatalities: Mr. White, Jefferson County EMC, stated that there were injuries; however, he did not know how many or the extent of the injuries at this time.

Other Risks: There have been reports that the fire is very close to the pressurized tanks that are located at the site.

Current Response

TCEQ Response: The Beaumont office is calling staff to the office to calibrate air monitoring equipment and prepare to go into the neighborhoods to conduct air monitoring once a safe perimeter is established. Hope Davila, Beaumont Emergency Response Coordinator, is at the incident command.

TCEQ Responder Name and Contact Information: Hope Davila, 409-791-7296

Incident Commander Name and Contact Information: Unknown

Emergency Response Contractor Information: Williams Fire has been contracted by the RE

Other Federal, State, or Local Authorities on Site: EPA Contractor is enroute, The National Weather Service in Lake Charles, Louisiana is assisting with plume modeling, and Texas Department of Public Safety

Other Pertinent Information, If Available

Weather: Fair 76 degrees Fahrenheit

Wind Direction: Calm

Potentially Impacted Receptors: Downwind neighborhoods and other Petrochemical Facilities

Local News Media: Local news stories can be found at the following links:

<https://www.12newsnow.com/article/news/local/explosion-fire-burning-at-port-neches-plant-early-monday/502-de236827-a796-48f7-ac55-fad5064c3c8b>

https://www.facebook.com/KFDMNews/videos/breaking-tpc-plant-explosion-in-port-neches/1813119148831422/?_so_=_discover&_rv_=_top_live

<https://www.cnn.com/2019/11/27/us/port-neches-plant-explosion/index.html>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/11/27/us/texas-explosion-port-neches-tpc.html>